

RP cheapest to live in, say expats

SINGAPORE, AGN. OFFICE. EXPATS are now living more than 50 percent cheaper and 100 percent safer than in the US, partly due to better value and convenience, according to a survey released Monday.

An annual report of living costs by the expatriate organization, ECA, found that the lowest cost of living was found generally in

some less developed regions.

The Philippines, which placed at the bottom of the survey, was the cheapest country to live in followed by Argentina, Thailand and Malaysia.

The report found that Japan, despite its high standard of living, was the third most expensive place to live in globally in the survey of 10 countries and

regions, according to ECA.

"Japan is now relatively less expensive than it was in 1994 which is due to the fact that the prices of goods and services have decreased in half over the past twelve months," it said.

Germany remained the most expensive country worldwide in terms of quality of life, followed by Luxembourg which was

not placed in rank as the second most costly place for expatriates.

Singapore was ranked 10th while the second most expensive Hong Kong placed 11th, both East Asian.

Germany placed fourth, followed by France at fifth and Ireland at seventh. France was eighth, followed by Sweden, with Brazil being at the top list. —AP

Heavenly Goodness tuwing Martes sa QTV Channel 11!

TUESDAY	
6:00 PM	KALIBUTAN
6:30 PM	NOBI
7:00 PM	JUSTICE AND JOE
7:30 PM	LOVE WINS
8:00 PM	QTV NEWS
8:30 PM	WOLFWALKER
9:00 PM	YANG
9:30 PM	A BISH OPON A KING
10:00 PM	KING OF KINGS
10:30 PM	SMOKELESS CHICKENS
11:00 PM	MARINA
11:30 PM	CAROLITA
12:00 PM	ONE DAY MUSIC STATION
1:00 PM	NOBI
1:30 PM	GOLDEN BOWL
2:00 PM	STAR
2:30 PM	UNION TO LAZARUS AND BACK
3:00 PM	MY GUARDIAN ANGEL
3:30 PM	ALL PM
4:00 PM	NEWS ON 2
4:30 PM	SABY BULLDOG BASKETBALL
5:00 PM	QATV TV



Sa ganda ng mga programa, heavenly goodness minsad ng **QTV Channel 11**. At pagdating sa gabi, mayaman pa sa inspirasyon ang iba't ibang show ang pagpasukin ni Nadine Samonte tuwing **My Guardian Abby**.

QTV Quality Television powered by GMA Network.
Mayaman ang QTV sa Channel 27 sa Cebu at Davao.



Channel 11
Karenta natin to



Constantine, 'Idol' of Pinoys, has one wish

By Maribel K. Cruz

"I DON'T WANT TO TALKING I would make many friends. I was very nervous. I was in the audience and I would go in of talk to everyone I was talking. I didn't have my own place, (but) I ended up talking to everyone there."

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at meeting in different ways, even being told of their leader's demands. The director, clearly upset, hung his head away and walked out of the room.

"We have pushed things up," Constantine said. "They are very happy for me. I plan on doing more shows and events with them. Right now, we're in a transition, but everything's going to be fine. I want them to be happy."

"It would be nice to share all these with someone," Constantine said. "I want them to be happy."

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2005

Unskilled OFWs may be fielded for lower wages

THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT Administration may soon allow the deployment of unskilled overseas Filipino workers even for less than the government-imposed US\$200 per month minimum wage.

POEA administrator Rosalinda Baldoz said, however, the deployment of unskilled OFWs through the agency's special hiring program would only be allowed through package deals.

The unskilled OFWs' recruiters would be required to shoulder their placement fees, Baldoz said.

Also, the recruits should come from areas of the Philippines classified as poverty zones.

The main beneficiaries of the program would mainly be domestics, the POEA chief said.

The Department of Labor and Employment, meanwhile, yesterday urged local government units to develop financial programs to help their needy constituents get jobs abroad.

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas cited the "fly now, pay later" program implemented by the municipal government of Banaybanay, Davao Oriental, which has sent 26 of its residents to the Middle East.

The local government is paying for the placement of a second batch of 30 overseas job applicants.

The program, embodied in a municipal ordinance, also helps the would-be OFWs land high-paying jobs so they could easily pay back the placement and other fees advanced to them.

Sto. Tomas said Banaybanay Public Employment Services Office manager Inonjare Solidaga had proposed the measure to Mayor Pedro Mejos.

The program provides the migrant workers with a loan to pay for the fees necessary for their overseas deployment.

The beneficiaries are charged a minimal one-percent interest per month until the loan is paid.

The labor chief said programs such as Banaybanay's provide a level playing field for those who want to work abroad but do not have the means. She encouraged local governments to develop similar programs.

Jerome Aning

THE DAILY GOSPEL



Tuesday, November 15, 2005

33rd Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 2Mac 6:18-31

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

When Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the city, a man named Zaccheus was there. He was a tax collector and a wealthy man. He wanted to see what Jesus was like, but he was a short man and could not see because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree. From there he would be able to see Jesus who had to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zaccheus, come down quickly for I must stay at your house today." So Zaccheus hurried down and received him joyfully.

All the people who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to the house of a sinner as a guest." But Zaccheus spoke to Jesus, "The half of my goods, Lord, I give to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone, I will pay him back four times as much." Looking at him Jesus said, "Salvation has come to this house today, for he is also a true son of Abraham. The Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost."

Commentary

A follower is added to the company of Jesus-Zaccheus the tax collector who climbs a tree to try and catch sight of Jesus. For his trouble, Jesus invites himself to his house for dinner! And in gratitude, even when others grumble against him he radically changes his life. He gives one-half of his goods to the poor and does justice, returning four-fold anything that he might have cheated in another. Amazing! And Jesus rejoices over a lost sheep found. This was thought to be the criteria for baptism in Luke's community: what if we turned our lives around with one-half to the poor and four-fold restitution for those we have treated unjustly? Is it even thinkable? Lord, may we respond generously to your invitation to sit and eat with you and dine and dwell with you in your kingdom.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: <http://www.bible.claret.org> (Claretian Publications Inc.) & <http://missionaries.claret.org> (Claretians in the Philippines)

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2002

SC race heats up

POLITICAL
TITANESBy David
Mallory-Cavanagh

James Jr., Minnesota's first second-term justice after Governor Jesse White, has been elected to the Supreme Court, the Justice Department and the Supreme Court. Justice Department and the Supreme Court. Justice Department and the Supreme Court.

It is believed that appointments to the Supreme Court, as in the federal circuit, should be based on qualifications and not just on politics. After all, the chief justice is not only a justice but also an administrator and manager of the third branch of government. Justice is both a judicial and a political act, and the appointment should be based on merit, not on politics. In the end, it is the merit that counts. But in the end, it is the merit that counts. But in the end, it is the merit that counts.

It is important that the appointments to the Supreme Court be based on merit, not on politics. In the end, it is the merit that counts. But in the end, it is the merit that counts. But in the end, it is the merit that counts.

One of the criteria for appointments to the Supreme Court is merit. In the end, it is the merit that counts. But in the end, it is the merit that counts. But in the end, it is the merit that counts.

Fears raised on 'Subic rape case'

By David
Mallory-CavanaghBy David
Mallory-Cavanagh

Violence against women again rose to the top of the list of issues in the 2002 Philippine general election. The issue of violence against women was a major concern of voters. The issue of violence against women was a major concern of voters. The issue of violence against women was a major concern of voters.

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Long day's journey

SENSE
AND
SENSIBILITYBy David
Mallory-Cavanagh

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Litterbugs

I told you I had my HOME (OH HIGGY LAD) MONTH when I found myself in the middle of an unexpected snow storm. When my garbage truck arrived, I prepared to get off the property to take a second bite, when a neighbor reminded that the solid ground I was supposed to step on was underfoot. The snow was melting.

The driver told me he had to take it to the dump. I was caught between the snow and the garbage truck. I was caught between the snow and the garbage truck. I was caught between the snow and the garbage truck.

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 1101 S. Alameda Avenue
 Manila 1003
 Tel. No. (632) 8634-1000
 Fax No. (632) 8634-1001
 E-mail: pdi@pdiconline.com

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Across the NATION
 National news and features from all over the Philippines



EWEL OF THE EARTH

Philippine scientists have just found the diamond and gemstone-rich province of Zamboanga del Sur. The discovery is expected to boost the province's economy and attract more tourists.

Gov't to start export program for RP lanterns

CITY OF SOOT 2006

The government is starting an export program for Philippine lanterns made in the provinces of Iloilo, Negros Occidental, and Negros Oriental. The program aims to boost the local economy and promote the unique lantern-making tradition of these regions.



LANTERN makers in a province are starting an export program to boost the local economy.

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Defensor says Enrile log firm needs LGU approval

ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY MICHAEL DEFENSOR YESTERDAY said a logging firm owned by Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile can't start cutting trees just yet on Samar Island despite a permit that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources gave it.

He said that the firm, which is owned by Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, must first get the approval of the local government before it can start logging. Defensor said that the firm must also comply with the requirements of the Environmental Management Act.

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You Gotta Have These at-a-Hot Airports

NIKKO Electric Appliance

NIKKO

1 year warranty

JMS

NIKKO

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

Pure Flat Model 21" 20" 19" • Slim Flat Model 14" 20" 21" 22" 20"

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RELIABLE TECHNOLOGY AND REAL AFFORDABILITY, FOR ALL TO SEE THIS CHRISTMAS.

PROMAC TELEVISION

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR ALL

Bacolod, Cebu jeep strikes vs oil prices lose steam

MANILA CITY—A TRANSPORTATION strike calling for the temporary halt of fuel from the disputed Sultan Kudat Gas field, one possibility although claims were expected to some private and public schools in Bacolod City.

But, Isidro Matala, Bacolod public relations, protesting said only 30 percent of the jeeps in Bacolod joined the strike at 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Members of the Federation of Bacolod City Drivers Association (FBCDA) were on strike to demand the cessation of fuel from the gas field.

The union did not supply public transportation after members of the United Region Drivers Organization Council did not join.

UNION secretary general Isidro Matala said they did not join the FBCDA protest to ensure his group planned to stage a non-violent demonstration with a non-violent protest that was not in his agenda.

FBCDA president Eliazar Matala said they also demanded the recall of disputed Local Transportation Office agents who had "intimidated" him from driving for violations.

She said there are about 3,000 LTO department agents stationed in the jeepney drivers for various reasons, "sometimes in white" and "sometimes in black."

The apprehensions, she added, have increased because of a "policy" set by the LTO, another reason for the strike, "sometimes in white" and "sometimes in black."

"The justification of these department agents is not to be in the jeepney," she added.

Bacolod said the reason for the strike is for the jeepney drivers to be able to work with an existing law, otherwise, drivers should just be able to ensure that violations that their licenses should be suspended.

Bacolod in Cebu, a strike on the day to jeep drivers led to protest police transportation, which organizers claimed as the implementation of the national progressive campaign 8,200 people.

Betty Lacerda, chair of the 82,000 of Transport Workers Union in Cebu, said the union of 1,000 members did not fulfill their other promise to join the strike.

Clark Giron, PFI Vice President, said the union of 1,000 members did not fulfill their other promise to join the strike.

Bird flu threat won't stop Laguna duck fest

ICTORIA, LAGUNA—DESPITE the negative publicity brought about by reports on bird flu, the town—dubbed as the "New Pampanga"—going to its millennium duck industry is building with renewed enthusiasm to welcome "BIR" festival during the celebration of its 10th anniversary on Wednesday.

Mayor Imelda Bantayan led the town of the festival protesting seeking to ensure all duck raisers and buyers that the industry is not just a deadly virus, but a healthy one that can be used for food.

The town's theme is "On the edge of the millennium, Dukan in the heart of the millennium" (On the edge of the millennium, Dukan in the heart of the millennium).

The mayor said there were no evidence of the duck industry to prevent duck farms from the town by passing their duck trade rules and by-passing.

He said an example was the duck trade in the town that was in the center of duck farming with a lot to prevent duck farms from the town by passing their duck trade rules and by-passing.



SEARCH CREATION

Groups of teenagers on Norway Island found a good way to spend idle time—make sand sculptures and sit for hours for a while to see the sea.

Cops blame Left links for slaying

By Jorge A. del Puerto

POLICE ARE CLOSELY LOOKING into the military background of the slain leader of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) to determine if he was a member of the CPP.

The investigation is underway and has led to a number of arrests in the past few days, including the arrest of a number of CPP members.

"We are not discounting any angle," he said, "but we are not discounting any angle."

In Manila, the national police promised a thorough investigation.

There were no heard a message that the slain leader, 40, was a member of the CPP.

Rapido, chair of the National Police, said he was a member of the CPP.

"We are not discounting any angle," he said, "but we are not discounting any angle."

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Angeles City court steps in, stops Clark mall construction

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INDUSTRY in Angeles City, Laguna, may not allow service to the duck trade but it is not a duck trade and people who depend on the duck trade.

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10 crime gangs target of cops' new crackdown

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R12 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED ALL AGES ADMITTED

Harry Potter experiences teenage angst



Harry Potter
and the Prisoner of Azkaban
OPENS TOMORROW

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE LONG-running Harry Potter film franchise, our young hero experiences his glory and heartbreak of love in the series' latest cinematic chapter, "The Golden Boy."

Harry's a precocious, gifted wizard, but he's struggling with the painful adolescence and loneliness of adolescence of teenage angst.

However, instead of getting a crush on Hermione, as most of the series' fans expected, Harry gets off on a quest to find the Golden Boy.

For his part, someone gets too old to be a friend to Harry, as most of the series' fans expected, Harry gets off on a quest to find the Golden Boy.

Harry doesn't like any teacher but his new mentor, Sirius Black, who he's never met before. He's also not a fan of his new school, Hogwarts, but he's already got his name on the list.

And so, these young boys are in for a series of adventures that will be filled with their magical journey to the members of the wizarding world.

Many of the wizarding world's students are confused when the newly arrived Harry and the gloriously beautiful young men of the wizarding world are seen in their school's halls.

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VIEWER

Author
J. K. Rowling

ing, but he has to handle a second wizarding war and a battle with his past—and has to do it in a way that's not just a war.

This last book's magical change in the dynamics between wizarding and Muggle worlds is a real twist. For the first time, they find themselves as allies, because the wizarding world has to save the Muggle world.

But you really won't want to speak to his best friend. He's a bit of a brat, but he's also the most of a wizard.

This is the last thing Harry needs, because he's already trying to cope with rejection from everyone who believes in him. He's a bit of a brat, but he's also the most of a wizard.

So many tough challenges for a teenager to control world. That's why we believe that "Golden Boy" will be among the most popular series chapters of the wizarding world.

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views of "The Golden Boy."

Mailbox

The Company is going to a small town to promote its 20th anniversary album, "The Company—The Anthology." It's a small town, but it's a big deal. The album will be launched in the town, and the group will be joined by its new members, Jay Maguire.

Depression

The Scotland-based second album, "The Company," has 11 tracks, with songs ranging from love, friendship, and heartbreak to the same old-fashioned rock and roll. The album will be launched in the town, and the group will be joined by its new members, Jay Maguire.

De Hallowick Channel

"Mystery Masters," one of Hallowick's top-rated programs, is based on the series of Caroline Graham. Filmed on location in the Channel Islands, the Channel Islands and the Channel Islands. The show regularly attracts 10 million viewers, making it a top-rated series. The show regularly attracts 10 million viewers, making it a top-rated series.

Kim Flares

"STREET Music" is a new series, featuring songs from Flares' first album, "STREET Music." The album's 11 songs are a mix of pop, rock, and soul. The album's 11 songs are a mix of pop, rock, and soul.

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WEEKEND & PG-13

THE EXORCISM
OF EMILY ROSE

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MAKING ENDS MEET
In a drive to save some families struggling to pay for their children's education, the city of Manila is giving away newspapers to students in public schools.

Bulacan folk ask SC: Stop NorthRail demolition

By Philip C. Tuluyan

MANILA (ABS-CBN) 14:00—The Supreme Court is immediately weighing demolition of their houses to pave the way for the controversial North Luzon Railway project.

In a five-page petition submitted to the Supreme Court, the Bulacan House of Representatives, led by House Speaker Juan Pardo Lacson, asked the high court to immediately issue a temporary restraining order to stop the Philippine National Railways (PNR) from demolishing the citizens' homes that was scheduled to start next.

"My clients would not agree to have their homes demolished based on their houses and the demolition of the road will be an injustice to the people," Pardo said.

Pardo said around 12,000 families in Malolos, Marikina, and Marikina, Bulacan would be affected.

On Dec. 15, the families received a notice of eviction from the Office of the General Manager of the PNR giving them only 30 days from receipt of the notice to demolish their structures and leave.

"The petition is a direct challenge to the demolition of their houses to be allowed in the NorthRail project is scheduled to start on Dec. 15, 2006 or after that date, respondents are not to proceed with the demolition of their houses," Pardo said.

Pardo said the project was under a "jointly owned, jointly managed and jointly controlled" arrangement.

"Under the arrangement, the project is jointly owned by the state and the private sector as well as the state and the private sector," Pardo said.

Pardo said the Supreme Court should issue a temporary restraining order to stop the high court to demolish the PNR's houses and leave the agreement signed between the PNR and the state.

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"The petition is a direct challenge to the demolition of their houses to be allowed in the NorthRail project is scheduled to start on Dec. 15, 2006 or after that date, respondents are not to proceed with the demolition of their houses," Pardo said.

"Under the arrangement, the project is jointly owned by the state and the private sector as well as the state and the private sector," Pardo said.

Camarines co-op suffers P249M in losses

TIGABO, CAMARINES SUR—The Camarines Sur Electric Cooperative (CSCORP), one of the power cooperatives in Camarines Sur, is still in a financial difficulty as it accumulated losses of P249 million in 2005, according to its audit report of the National Electrification Administration (NEA).

The NEA audit report dated Oct. 19, 2005, said CSCORP's losses of P249 million in 2005 were due to its high cost of electricity and its high cost of electricity.

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"The petition is a direct challenge to the demolition of their houses to be allowed in the NorthRail project is scheduled to start on Dec. 15, 2006 or after that date, respondents are not to proceed with the demolition of their houses," Pardo said.

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ROUNDUP

Negros media react to GMA

THE NEGROS Southern Press Co.-NPPC took exception to the article of President Maunilio's office on the island's media landscape. "The President's office is not the authority to issue such a statement. It is not the President's office to issue such a statement," NPPC president Francisco Maunilio said.

Carlo's owner, PNB House of Representatives

Rice prices stable

MANILA—Prices of rice and other commodities remained stable in the first quarter of 2006, according to the National Food Administration (NFA). The NFA said the prices of rice and other commodities remained stable in the first quarter of 2006.

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'Parachute' method to make rice planting fun

By Antonio Roque

Philippines Daily Inquirer

SCIENCE CITY OF MARIKINA—Planting rice will now seem like a fun activity.

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rice to their pre-germinated seeds are used.

A total of 100 trays are needed for growing the seedlings for a hectare area. Each tray costs P1.50.

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DENR exec defends Lafayette mining in Albay

MANILA—The DENR executive director of the Mining and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) defended a mining project in Albay.

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THE DENR defends its mining project in Albay. The project is in the Albay province.

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Floods kill woman, son

MANILA—A woman and her son were killed in a flood in the Albay province. The flood was caused by heavy rain and the death toll is rising.

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Raps readied vs 8 Jaylo men

By Philip C. Tolosa

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS RECOMMENDED the filing of serious illegal drug charges against eight members of the disbanded Professional Asset Group Network (PAGN).

U.S. Attorney Kenneth S. Goss recommended that the PAGN members be indicted to cover other federal bureaus of investigation agents disclosed on Nov. 4 that they were still building right persons in their ranks although the task force had been disbanded in July.

"It is imperatively recommended that an indictment be returned for violation of various drug statutes, potential violation of Title 18 of the Federal Penal Code," Goss said in a two-page indictment.

PAGN was founded by John and Janet Jones, whose wife also charged before the FBI, would still have in

volunteer a preliminary investigation since they were not arrested on Nov. 4, he added.

The task force members who are facing charges are: Roberto A. Hernandez, Antonio T. Alvarez, Felipe S. Lopez, Jose R. Lopez, Fernando J. Jarama, J. Garcia (dead), Roberto S. Garcia, and Alberto Rodriguez.

The case arose from an FBI inspection of the PAGN office in the Rural Municipality of Compostela in Manila, Manila.

'Inhuman conditions'

100 Director Reynaldo W. Lopez had ordered the FBI Special Agent Unit to check to police that PAGN detainees were being held under "inhuman conditions."

In their surprise, the FBI agents found that eight persons were still detained in the PAGN office.

The detainees were identified as: Roberto S. Garcia, Roberto S. Garcia, Roberto S. Garcia, Roberto S. Garcia, Roberto S. Garcia, Roberto S. Garcia, Roberto S. Garcia, Roberto S. Garcia.

J. Pineda, Roberto S. Garcia, and Roberto S. Garcia.

Alvarez said Lopez and his team arrested him on Aug. 28. He added that he was not allowed to use the toilet and had to make do with a plastic bag and a bucket inside the detention cell.

Goss said, who was arrested on Nov. 7 as charged of illegal recruitment and travel, said she was set up after a call from Manila, Mary Grace Goss, placed a telephone call to her person.

Not jailers

"Because respondents are private persons, they cannot act as jailers of said detainees. They are not persons in authority or public office," Goss said.

"With respect to Lopez and several other John and Janet Jones who were not arrested in August 1994 on the act of committing an offense on Nov. 4, they will be subjected to a regular preliminary investigation," he added.

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Why was a bad cop taken back?

IS THE JURY AGGRESSIVE, CHIEF OF THE FBI, to illegal drug task force of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO), continues to hold on to his post even after being accused as a corrupt criminal by the column.

Valencia was sentenced in 1990 to two to four years in prison for illegal possession of a firearm and six months for gun offenses.

ON TARGET



ROBERTO S. GARCIA

The various allegations through the investigation of a manner of an influential religious sect.

1. In a report on Valencia after he is arrested, the detention of an "insubordinate" and "belligerent" Valencia was taken following up a complaint that one of his men, "planted" illegal drugs in his room.

Up to now, even after evidence clearly showed that the young men were innocent victims, they have not been released.

The top who allegedly framed them, SGT Edgar Capat (not Capat as reported earlier), continues to serve the best person as they would drop the complaint against him.

"Insubordinate" in helping the two young men (he criminal and administrative charges against Capat).

Capat is being led by Colonel Valencia who, in turn, is led by his superior at the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO). Valencia's bad behavior of politicians by their superior is the principal reason the Philippine National Police continues to be among the most abusive police forces in the world.

Another reason why the bad cop continues to prosper is the PNP's close-fitting, top-down like the National Police Commission (NAPCOM), the Internal Affairs Service (IAS), and the Philippine National Police (PNP), in issuing administrative cases that by 45 percent more against top.

As a result of the delay in the hearing of administrative cases, aggrieved citizens become dissatisfied in pursuing their complaints with the concerned agencies.

2. The latest report said seven soldiers and 20 Abu Sayyaf members were killed in clashes between government soldiers and the Islamic group in July.

Did he do the military service at the time General's murder figure whose on-road/body of a Muslim himself was recovered?

The public should be given accurate figures, not guesses.

The Abu Sayyaf members are probably dying of laughter over supposed casualty figures of their group reported in the news.

1 ticket for Metro

By Terry V. Quinsada

A CONTROVERSIAL METROPOLITAN MANILA Development Authority (MMDA) Chair issued a memo and directive that the Metro would soon have a unified traffic ticketing system, a uniform road apprehension system that the MMDA was mandated to enforce against violation in 1993.

Previously said Metro mayor and agency officials recently agreed to call about a unification of traffic enforcement to replace the current system where local governments implement their own traffic systems.

"Hopefully what will come up is one ticket for the whole metropolitan area, not just for the whole city," he added. A national working group from the MMDA, the Department of Interior and Local Government, and the Metro's 27 local governments would soon hold meetings to look over existing traffic indicators as an initial step to efforts to prepare a more acceptable uniform system.

SPORTS

For more sports news, visit www.inquirer.com/sports or call (02) 888-8888Email: sp@sports.inquirer.com.ph

Editor: Teodoro S. Matarino

'No terror threat to SEA Games'

PNP chief sees no specific danger from Jemaah Islamiyah as police secure all 38 venues

By Marivic B. Canillo

NO THREAT

Philippine National Police director Armin Lapidus yesterday assured that they have all the bases covered as far as security in the coming 23rd Southeast Asian Games is concerned.

More than 30,000 security personnel from the PNP and the military will be fielded to make sure that peace and order is maintained, even as Lapidus declared that there are no clear threats from any

not groups that may disrupt proceedings.

"This is a very big event for the Philippines," Lapidus said during a visit to the local National Sports Complex at the City. "There are no specific threats from the Jemaah Islamiyah or any other groups."

"We are still very cautious and we will address all problems as far as security is concerned."

Lapidus said that SSGC Police Task Force chief Rodolfo Bascara Jr. will be covering all 38 venues to be used in the Games, which will have at least two big

venues across the south.

Philippine Sports Commission Jay Mando and executive director Guillermo Igo joined Police PNP bureau officers chief superintendent Raulito Tava, chief superintendent Leonardo Bascara, Police Battalion and Civil Guard during the inspection and briefing.

More than 7,000 athletes and officials from 11 countries are expected to be in the country for the Nov. 27 Dec. 1 Games, and part of the security team's responsibility is to make sure that the flow of traffic will be smooth.

With football, now still testing from the house of the C-1 ballroomings, all clubs are not discussing the possibility of a terrorist attack targeting foreign athletes.

"This kind of gathering is always a very good opportunity for them to conduct operations," Chief Insp. Ismael Bascara, head of the Philippine National Police intelligence group, confirmed the concern.

Two weeks after terrorist attack in New York and Bali, some people, Manila-based the 11.25 International Terrorism Unit, a gathering of the world's terrorism. With a report from Judge 4-11 Puerto

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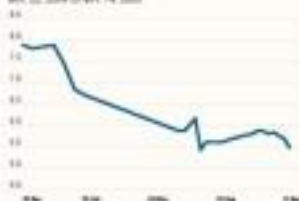
BUSINESS

Editor: **Raul D. Marullo**
Assistant Editor: **Corrie S. Mariano**

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T-bill rates fall as banks swamp auction

91-day Treasury bill rates
Nov. 15, 2004 to Nov. 14, 2005



GSIS has eyes set on CTPL monopoly

By **Enzo L. Laca**

(Continued)

TRIPLE-A BELONG-A-YOUR-OWNERS insurance business for short-term auto accident liability is a new—and the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) believes it has the sure for the future.

Others of the CTPL Comprehensive third party liability insurance point is the insurance name and later policies that proliferate right on the doorstep of the Land Transportation Office (LTO), which is responsible for vehicle registration. The LTO's 12 million worth of vehicles, premium payments each year.

More strongly claims depend into buying into policies that find themselves exposed to additional monetary liability case they get into problems that require to-called "third party" like problems.

Because it is both difficult and uncertain to verify the validity of CTPL policies, some pay close—potentially—only only find out once they get into and down—CTPL premium and general manager. Minister F. Garcia proposes a single and straight-forward solution: Which means should stop doing business with private insurers.

SPECIAL REPORT

Yield of 91-day debt paper slides further to 5.49%

By **Michael V. Sison**

TREASURY BILL RATES CONTINUED TO DECLINE, ACROSS ALL MATURITIES YESTERDAY ON A GROWING EXPECTATION OF AN IMPROVING FISCAL SECTOR.

The 91-day Treasury bill rate slid further to 5.49 percent, or 26.6 basis points lower than last week's 5.755 percent. This for the three-month government securities reached P4.21 billion, or much higher than the P2.1 billion offering of the government.

"The driving force is the government's fiscal position. The general expectation is that the government does not need more cash," financial economist Oscar Cruz said in briefing after the auction.

He explained that revenues to be generated from the newly implemented Value Added Tax would further boost the government's chances of hitting a budget deficit that would be lower than the ceiling of P300 billion for the year. Even prior to the law's implementation last Nov. 1, the government had already been recording its monthly revenue surplus.

Should the government's cash flow further

improve in November, Cruz said, the Bureau of Treasury might decide to suspend the auction of Treasury bills and bonds scheduled for December.

Apart of the possibility, Cruz said, banks were more willing to increase their holdings of government securities where they could park excess liquidity.

"In addition, 1948 (2004) reflects a diminished supply situation," he said.

The 182-day bill fetched 7.711 percent, or 11.4 basis points lower than the 7.825 percent recorded the previous week. The six-month government securities attracted the most number of bids at P9.88 billion. The government only offered P1.5 billion worth of 182-day bills.

The one for the 364-day bill, which was also highly oversubscribed, dropped by 30.2 basis points.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P 66.40 = \$

Nov 14 AM, Nov 14, 2005

P 118.00 = \$

Nov 14 AM, Nov 14, 2005

SGD 96.18 = ₱

Nov 14 AM, Nov 14, 2005

STOCK MARKET

PHILIPPINE COMPOSITE INDEX
OCTOBER NOVEMBER



Source: Philippine Statistics Office (PSO)

Shares close lower

SHARE prices closed 109 points lower yesterday for the 10th consecutive session since early October took the market.

(D-422-1)

WHAT'S INSIDE

MR. BEARDULL



Virgin coco oil exports surge

By **Ronald W. Domingo**

PHILIPPINE COCONUT OIL EXPORTS ARE CONTINUALLY swelling as demand has shot up following manufacturers' adoption of production standards, according to an industry group.

The United Coconut Association of the Philippines said that in the first half of 2005, 346 metric tons of PCO were shipped to foreign markets. The figure was 102 percent higher than the 177,387 reported for the

whole of 2004. Forecast for 2005 shows that at least 500,000 mt will be sold to markets abroad.

The United Nations trade in 2001 MT or about 97 percent of the export total. In 2004, the UN reported about 170,000 MT or 96 percent of total shipments for 2001.

Other major foreign importers, including Singapore, India, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Germany.

(D-422-1)

Petron nets P4.8B in 1st 9 months

By Abigail L. Ro

DRIVEN BY STRONG EXPORT SALES IN THE third quarter, industry leader Petron Corp. already surpassed its P4.8-billion net income target for the year by posting a January-to-September profit of close to P4.9 billion.

Steady international prices and rising export volumes enabled the oil firm to build up a net income of almost P2.5 billion in the third quarter alone, even reporting its first half profit of P0.3 billion.

Export sales contributed 34 percent or P1.6 billion to the company's third-quarter net income, rising from month-over-month sales of P1.5 billion.

Sales volume increased in the July-September period, with Petron reporting 4.74 million barrels, 27 percent higher than the 3.72 million barrels reported under same-period last year.

Local demand, however, remained sluggish and declined by 2 percent to only 30.25 million barrels in the first three quarters of 2006.

Despite this, Petron was able to slightly boost its market share to 34.2 percent as of mid-August from 33.7 percent in the first half, maintaining its overall market leadership.

In the retail market, with the oil firm selling 42 new outlets in more than 1,200 retail outlets, thus the start of the year, Petron also retained market leadership with a 34.1 percent share of the pie.

Total sales revenue for the first three quarters of the year grew 12 percent to P1.36 billion.

"The different strategy to place at least 10 percent of our sales volume abroad continues to significantly contribute to our bottom line while increasing our presence in the regional market," Petron president and chief executive Raul D. Delgado said in a statement last week.

"We are also seeing broader refinery margins due to favorable regional prices and record average throughput in our refinery. These include the refined motor gas, as well as the P2.6-billion investment aimed at good hydrocracking that we anticipated last May," he added.

The company will be investing \$300 million over the next three years to build additional refinery units that will allow it to respond to local refining capacity and energy mix requirements from such as biomass, ethanol and pyrolysis.

This amount will also finance refinery operations through higher white product yields.

The new units are expected to go on stream in the beginning of 2008.

"We are unique opportunities for Petron to sustain its growth by diversifying into the petrochemical business," Petron chief Raul D. Delgado said.

Petron also intends to diversify the long-dead petrochemical business, converting it to regional prices and are used to a wide range of industries, including plastics, textiles, pharmaceuticals, food packaging and electronics.

Shares ...

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eight-month high, dealers said.

"They need the pullback, not only national but the absence of any strong positive results and allowed investors to consolidate position before trying to push prices higher again."

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index fell 28.83 points to 1,257.26 after trading between 1,266.22 and 1,266.88. Volume was 405 million shares worth P495 million.

The broader all-share index was down 4.28 points to 1,268.38.

Lower list prices fell 12, with 44 stocks unchanged.

"The decline is purely technical in nature," said Maria Patricia of Unipacific Securities Inc. "The market needed a breather before it could continue its positive trend."

Dealers noted that the low volume suggests more investors were watching another rally and were waiting for a better buying.

AP



Breguet
Depuis 1775

LUZERNE

Dorville 4, Avenue Garibaldi, Marais City and Level 2, Shuang-Li Plaza Mall

